

Serial No.: 10/614,140
Docket No.: LOCH1
Amendment dated June 8, 2005
Responsive to an Advisory Action dated May 26, 2005

REMARKS

Prior to the present Office Action, claims 1-24 were pending, with claims 8 and 19 being withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected species. Claims 2-3, 7, 12-19 and 24 have been canceled, and claims 25-28 added. Therefore, claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 20-23, and 25-28 remain

5 pending.

The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Novosad for a courteous and productive telephonic interview on May 19, 2005, and again on June 8, 2005. During both interviews, the differences between claim 20 (as amended) were discussed.

In the previous amendment dated May 19, 2005, the various rejections were discussed and

10 certain changes made to the claims. The resulting Advisory Action and interview on June 8 have narrowed the issues to the wording of claim 20. In the interest of brevity, the present amendment omits the remarks addressing the section 112 and section 103 rejections, as such arguments may be found with reference to the previous amendment. Instead, this amendment supplements the previous amendment by canceling claims 12-19 and modifying the wording of claim 20. The

15 other claim changes made in the previous amendment are repeated here because the previous amendment was not entered.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowability of claims 3 and 9, and these have been converted into independent claims 1 and 25, respectively.

20 **Discussion of Claim 20**

Claim 20 now specifies that there is an array of at least three parallel support members mounted to the portable mounting base, and wherein a slot is formed between each two *adjacent* support members for receiving a skateboard (e.g., see the series of support members 92 in Fig. 5), *such that there is always one less slot than the number of support members*. Support can be

25 found in the paragraph on page 9 describing Fig. 5, and with reference to Fig. 5. Figs. 4 and 6 also show arrays of support members in series where there is always one less slot than the number of support members (i.e., a ratio of (n+1):n support members to slots), and support can be found in the paragraphs describing those figures (see, for example, the explicit description of 7 support

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members and 6 slots with reference to Figs. 6A-6C).

In contrast, Fig. 5 of Draper shows a multiple rack assembly including a plurality of pairs of support members, each pair hanging on a "rack assembly 50." The "slots" for receiving skateboards are only defined between the two support members in each pair. There are no slots 5 between each pair, and thus no slot between "each two adjacent" support members. Consequently, there is always a ratio of two support members for each slot (2:1). Furthermore, claim 20 provides "at least three" support members, by definition including 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, etc. In contrast, Draper only discloses an even number of support members (because there are a plurality of pairs of support members), and indeed an odd number of support members would leave one 10 unused.

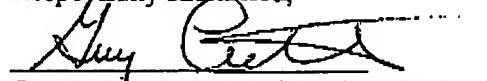
Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claim 20.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that claims 1, 4-6, 8-11, 15 20-23, and 25-28 are in condition for allowance. If there is any further hindrance to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged contact the undersigned by telephone.

20 Date: June 8, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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